

TO: Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)

Food and Drug Administration 2673 '99 SEP 14 P2:10

5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061

Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket Numbers: 98N-1230, 97P-0197, 96P-0418.

Dear FDA:

By allowing the practice of forced molting in laying hens, *Salmonella enteritidis* is being allowed to flourish, and the FDA is not protecting human health. Merely putting bacteria warning labels on egg cartons is silly, and regulating refrigeration temperatures is not sufficient.

The FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting. This petition should be granted immediately. The practice of starving hens has been scientifically shown to promote disease by destroying their immune systems, predisposing the birds and their eggs to *Salmonella* poisoning. The FDA has the authority to end forced molting, which is a primary cause of infectious disease in hens, eggs, and the people who eat eggs.

To intentionally starve any living creature is cruel, and as a result, people are also suffering from this situation, which breeds contamination.

Please stop the practice of forced molting!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Douglas Long  
MRS. Douglas Long  
123 E. Market St.  
Owingsburg, PA 17961-1903

96P-0418

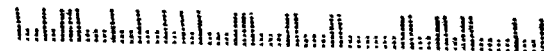
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20237/0001



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
**CROSS REFERENCE SHEET**

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C567

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C568  
96P-0418/C567